

C. REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-4, 6-10, 12-16, and 18 are currently pending in the application. 1, 7, and 13 are currently amended. Claims 5, 11, and 17 are currently canceled.

No New Matter Added Through the Amendments to the Claims

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections and allowance in view of the allowable subject matter in amended claims 1-4, 6-10, 12-16, and 18. Because the specification and figures support the amendments to the claims, no new matter is added in the amendments to the claims.

In particular, as to claims 1, 7, and 13, as to the element of responsive to said request to adjust said allocated size for said inline log for said file system from said current size allocation to said new size allocation while maintaining a size allocation of said logical volume, shrinking a portion of a total storage space allocated to said file system within said logical volume and allocating additional storage space available from shrinking said portion of said total storage space allocated to said file system within said logical volume to said inline log according to a storage requirement for said new size allocation, the specification and figures describe this element in paragraphs 0032 and 0033 and in Figures 3 and 5. In addition, dependent claims 5, 11, and 17, which previously included the element of shrinking a total storage space allocated to said file system within said logical volume, are now incorporated in claims 1, 7, and 13.

Amended Claims are not Obvious under 35 USC § 103(a)

The Final Office Action rejects claims 1 and 3-6 as being unpatentable under 35 USC 103(a) over Li et al (US Publication 2002/0032835) (hereinafter referred to as Li) in view of McCargar (US Patent 6,014,674). [Final Office Action, p. 2] In addition, the Final Office Action rejects claim 2, as being unpatentable under 35 USC 103(a)

over Li and McCargar and further in view of Kulatunge et al. (US 6,353,902). [Final Office Action, p. 4] Further, the Final Office Action rejects claims 7-18 on the same ground of rejection as claims 1-6.

35 USC 103(a) requires a showing that though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102, the difference between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Applicants respectfully assert that claims 1, 7, and 13 as amended are not obvious under Li in view of McCargar because the differences between claims 1, 7, and 13 and Li and McCargar, separately or in combination, are not such that the subject matter of claims 1, 7, and 13 as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art of file system management.

In particular, Applicants note that claims 1, 7, and 13 when viewed as a whole clearly teach receiving a request that specifies both of (1) adjustment of the allocated size of an inline log of a file system; and (2) maintaining a size allocation of the logical volume. This type of allocation request, that requests adjustment of a log size within a logical volume, while maintaining the size of the logical volume, is not taught by an allocation request for allocating logical volumes, allocating additional storage space to a logical volume, or allocating logical tracks of data to the free space allocated to the file system. Thus, the difference between claims 1, 7, and 13 and Li and McCargar is that claims 1, 7, and 13 teach an allocation request within a file system that specifies adjustment of the allocated size of an inline log of a file system and further restrains the request to maintaining the size allocation of the logical volume; these differences would not have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art of file system management.

In addition, Applicants note that claims 1, 7, and 13, as amended, when viewed as a whole clearly teach responsive to the request, shrinking the portion of the total storage space allocated to the file system within the logical volume and allocating

additional storage space to the inline log from the portion shrunk from the file system, such that the allocated size of the inline log is adjusted without adjusting the size of the logical volume holding the file system and inline log. Within a logical volume, shrinking the portion of space allocated to the file system and increasing the portion of space allocated to the log file is not taught by collecting free space allocated to the file system of sufficient size for assigning a logical data track to the free space. The difference between claims 1, 7, and 13 and Li and McCargar is that claims 1, 7, and 13 teach an allocation request for adjusting the size of the inline log without adjusting the size of the logical volume holding the inline log, which triggers shrinking the portion of the logical volume allocated to the file system and allocating the additional space from the logical volume to the inline log; these differences would not have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art of file management systems.

As to claims 2-4, 6, 8-10, 12, 14-16, and 18, these claims are dependent upon independent claims 1, 7, and 13, and are therefore allowable as dependent claims of independent allowable claims.

Conclusion

Applicants note the citation of pertinent prior art cited by the Examiner.

In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of the rejections and the allowance of the current pending claims is respectfully requested. If the Examiner feels that the pending claims could be allowed with minor changes, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned to discuss an Examiner's Amendment.

In addition, The Commissioner is authorized to charge payment of any necessary fees or credit any overpayments to deposit account 09-0447.

Respectfully submitted,

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